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**Date** March 11, 2004

**To** Steven J. Bos, Patent Examiner  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Commissioner for Patents  
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**Facsimile number** 12683-00300001 / (703) 872-9306

**From** David L. Schuler

**Re** Applicant: Jacobus Philippus van Dyk et al.  
Serial No. 09/744,531  
Filed: January 25, 2001  
Our Ref.: 12683-003001

**Number of pages**  
**including this page** 6

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Attorney's Docket No.: 12683-003001 / RGuthrie/ml P15109US00

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jacobus Philippus Van Dyk et al. Art Unit : 1754  
Serial No. : 09/744,531 Examiner : Steven J. Bos  
Filed : January 25, 2001  
Title : BENEFICATION OF TITANIA SLAG BY OXIDATION AND REDUCTION  
TREATMENT

OFFICIAL

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AGENDA FOR TELEPHONIC INTERVIEWSCHEDULED FOR MARCH 12, 2004 AT 9 AM

The following individuals will be participating in the upcoming interview:

1. Carel Pieter van Viljon, D.M. Kisch Inc.,
2. Jacobus Philippus van Dyk, inventor, and
3. David Schuler, Applicant's representative.

PROPOSED CLAIMS--DO NOT ENTER

Please delete claim 21 and amend claims 1 and 6 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating titania slag to increase the leachability of impurities from the slag comprising the steps of:

sizing the titania slag to a particle size from 75 to 850  $\mu\text{m}$ , wherein the titania slag is produced from beach sand ilmenite;

oxidizing the sized slag particles in an oxidizing atmosphere at a temperature from about 700°C to below about 900°C for at least 30 minutes;

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated

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